

know what any senator could talk to young children about, high school children who come to us. I talk about these issues to them, by the way. Maybe that is why they like me to talk to them, and their teachers will tell me that the kids say my presentation was the one they enjoyed the most because I don't forget what it was when I was a child. I talk to them about the things I wish had been discussed with me, not in mystical terms that befuddled, "beclouded" and hid the issues, but rather that made them clear. The schools are the place where these matters should be discussed. In other countries where they have programs that teach the young people, not just the young girls but the young boys, about their bodies, about sex, about the consequences of sexual activity, they have a much lower pregnancy rate among teens than exists in this country, much lower. We think that by keeping everybody ignorant we are going to keep them righteous. I think the worst thing in the world is to equate ignorance with orthodoxy, ignorance with righteousness, ignorance with morality, but that is what the young people see us doing. If we, as adults, will not lead the way, they are going to go out and find out anyway. You all know some of the things you did as young people, and if you can't acknowledge that you did it, that others did, young boys try to put their hands under young girls dresses, young girls will grab young boys in the crotch; these things happen, they happen on school buses. And you all will pretend that they don't even occur. And if a child came to you and said, I want you to explain to me, I want you to explain to me what I should know about sex, there is a great blushing, a hemming and hawing, a stammering, there is something like, well, go talk to a counselor at school or go talk to the minister. So they go to the minister, a young boy, get you, and the parents send him there because he was a choir boy, he was an altar boy. And he goes to the priest and you all think that every priest came straight from heaven. And you know what some of these priests have done when they get these little wide-eyed naive boys who know nothing? They have sexually abused them. That's what ignorance does and we do our children a disservice when we teach them to respect an adult simply because they are an adult, obey anybody old because they are old. I saw today where a 69-year-old man is charged with two counts of sexual assault against a child 13 and 15. And these girls probably have got some ignorant parents who say, go talk to Mr. So and So, he's old and he knows everything and he's nice, and he says, heh, heh, I've got me a couple more. And that's what we perpetrate and that's what we want and that's what we pretend is not